

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 – 8 (cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) A method for executing a washing program in a dishwasher, the method comprising:

within a dishwasher having a spray system for spraying a liquid onto crockery that has been disposed statically in the dishwasher, providing a washing liquid to be eventually sprayed by the spray system, as a washing program is executed, onto the crockery in the dishwasher;

heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature in a flow section that is separate from the spray system to an extent such that the washing liquid does not substantially impinge on the crockery in the dishwasher as the washing liquid is being heated in the flow section, whereupon the washing liquid is heated without substantially wetting the crockery in the dishwasher; and

after the washing liquid has been heated to the predetermined temperature, delivering the washing liquid into contact with the crockery in the dishwasher, whereupon the crockery in the dishwasher that essentially has not been heated is heated by the washing liquid.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the heating the washing liquid to the predetermined temperature in the flow section includes heating the washing liquid in the flow section embodied separate from the spraying system as a valve circuit controllable by a program control system as a substantially closed circuit and

circulating the washing liquid in the valve circuit such that the washing liquid does not substantially impinge on the crockery in the dishwasher as the washing liquid is being heated in the valve circuit.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the heating the washing liquid to the predetermined temperature in the flow section includes ceasing the heating of the washing liquid at a latest when the crockery in the dishwasher has reached the predetermined temperature for the washing liquid.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the heating the washing liquid to the predetermined temperature in the flow section includes circulating the washing liquid using a circulating pump such that a heat distribution inside the washing liquid is substantially homogeneous.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the heating the washing liquid to the predetermined temperature in the flow section includes heating the washing liquid to a specific temperature in a preheating container.

14. (Previously presented) A dishwasher comprising:

a crockery retainer that statically retains crockery that is to be washed;

a spray system for spraying a liquid onto the crockery that has been disposed in the dishwasher, the spray system being operable to spray a washing liquid, as a washing program is executed, onto the crockery in the dishwasher; and

a heater for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature, the heater being separate from the spray system to an extent such that the washing liquid does not substantially impinge on the crockery in the dishwasher as the washing liquid is being

heated by the heater, whereupon the washing liquid is heated without substantially wetting the crockery in the dishwasher; and the spray system being operable to spray the washing liquid onto the crockery in the dishwasher after the washing liquid has been heated to the predetermined temperature, whereupon the crockery in the dishwasher that essentially has not been heated is heated by the washing liquid.

15. (Previously presented) The dishwasher according to claim 14, wherein the heater is a container provided with a heating device.

16. (Previously presented) The dishwasher according to claim 14, further comprising: a switch for manually switching an operation of the heater between an on condition in which the heater is operable to heat the washing liquid and an off condition in which the heater does not heat the washing liquid.

17. (Currently amended) A household dishwasher comprising:
a housing having a washing compartment;
a crockery retainer that statically retains crockery that is to be washed in the washing compartment of the dishwasher;
a flow section, which is disposed within the housing of the dishwasher, that circulates a washing liquid therein to be subsequently sprayed onto the crockery as a washing program is executed, wherein the flow section heats the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature; and
a spray system for spraying the washing liquid onto the crockery in the dishwasher only after the washing liquid has been heated to the predetermined temperature by the flow section,
wherein the flow section is separate from the spray system such that the washing liquid does not substantially impinge on the crockery in the washing compartment of the dishwasher as the washing liquid is being circulated and heated in the flow section, and
wherein the flow section includes:

a valve circuit controllable by a program control system and forming a substantially closed circuit that circulates the washing liquid; and

a heater for heating the washing liquid being circulated in the valve circuit of the flow section to the predetermined temperature only in the flow section.

18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:
a circulating pump, which is disposed within the housing, that circulates the washing liquid in the valve circuit of the flow section such that the heat distribution inside the washing liquid is substantially homogeneous.